

Subj: **Re: History of the United States Mint, New Orleans, Louisiana**
 Date: 7/1/2003 10:23:51 PM Central Standard Time
 From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 Sent from the Internet ([Details](#))

Eric:

You wrote: Wayne: In our library we have a copy of a History of the United States Mint, New Orleans, Louisiana (Baton Rouge 1971) by Charles

J. Collins, Jr. It has 47 pages and 38 plates in accordance with my card file. For what purpose does Mr. Ginsburg wish to use it? If I can be helpful please let me know. Eric

The requestor's name is Dave Ginsberg and his email address is [REDACTED] He wrote:

Of course, I'd like to know everything! But, to start with . . .

I'd like a description of the book - how many pages, what information is in it, etc. - as thorough a summary as I can get.

Also, I'd be very interested if the owner knows how many copies were printed and any information about the author and the genesis of the book.

And, does the owner think it's a particularly valuable source of information (that is, should I continue my search for a copy of the book) and does he have any idea where I can get a copy (even if it's just one to borrow)?

I think I've asked for the moon, but I'd be very grateful for any information the owner would care to share!

I'm primarily interested in researching how gold coins circulated in and around New Orleans in the 1840s and 1850s. (As soon as I've done enough basic research to frame some intelligent questions, I'll ask you to put a note in the E-Sylum requesting research help and advice.)

This seems to be my week for books. I've just received, via inter-library loan, a copy of Albert S. Bolles' The Financial History of the United States from 1789 to 1860 (the 1969 reprint), which I'll take a stab at this weekend.

Thanks again for your help and please offer my thanks in advance to the owner for his help!

Dave Ginsburg

Subj: **Returned mail: User unknown**
 Date: 7/2/2003 11:28:54 AM Central Standard Time
 From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 Sent from the Internet ([Details](#))

The original message was received at Wed, 2 Jul 2003 12:28:38 -0400 (EDT)
 from [REDACTED]

----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors -----

----- Transcript of session follows -----
 ... while talking to gateway2.worldnet.att.net.:
 >>> RCPT To: [REDACTED]
 <<< 551 not our customer
 550 [REDACTED]... User unknown

Final-Recipient: RFC822; [REDACTED]
 Action: failed
 Status: 5.1.1
 Remote-MTA: DNS; gateway2.worldnet.att.net
 Diagnostic-Code: SMTP; 551 not our customer
 Last-Attempt-Date: Wed, 2 Jul 2003 12:28:45 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from [REDACTED]
 by imo-m01.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v36_r1.1.) id w.166.22b72b6b (3932);
 Wed, 2 Jul 2003 12:28:38 -0400 (EDT)
 Return-path: [REDACTED]
 From: [REDACTED]
 Message-ID: [REDACTED]
 Date: Wed, 2 Jul 2003 12:28:37 EDT
 Subject: Re: History of the United States Mint, New Orleans, Louisiana
 To: [REDACTED]
 CC: [REDACTED]
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="part1_166.22b72b6b.2c346235_boundary"
 X-Mailer: 8.0 for Windows sub 6011

Wayne: My answer to Dave Ginsberg is as follows (I have sent him a copy of this Email):
 It will take a while for me to locate my copy of Collins as I do not have my library at my home. Please tell me
 where you are located because if you are in New Orleans there is a gentleman there who has developed the
 current exhibit at the N.O.Mint and who has studied all of the literature very carefully. I can find his odd name if
 needed. I presume you are studying the gold coinage circulation of the 1840s and 1850s because of the effect of
 the introduction of the \$20 denomination coinage, As soon as I learn more about your project I will try to help
 further.
 Eric P. Newman

Subj: **Re: History of the United States Mint, New Orleans, Louisiana**
Date: 7/15/2003 11:18:08 AM Central Standard Time
From: [EricNumis](#)
To: [REDACTED]

I am pleased that you obtained a copy of Collins from Mr. Lambousy.

In the United States in the 1840s and 1850s there were no more Bank of the United States (first or second) bank note issues in circulation and quantities of chartered and unchartered bank notes were issued in almost every state. They circulated as you know in states far beyond the states they were issued in. There were publications which gave the discount payable when tendered in specific areas. Small discounts for perfectly good notes took place when the notes were far from their issue points and the cost and risk of getting them back to the issuer was an economic factor. You always had to worry that notes of a specific solvent bank would become shaky. You never had to worry about specie being accepted but there never was enough U.S. specie and most specie was foreign until 1857. The foreign coin had counterfeit and abuse problems to be concerned about. When the gold from the Gold Rush became available there were millions in U.S.\$20 pieces coined which drastically changed the circulation picture.

You know all of this already and I presume a person was paid with whatever money was available. You have a very interesting research area and I am sure you will find much new material. I hope I have been slightly helpful. Good luck.

Eric P. Newman